

# Calaveras County



2012

Report of Agriculture



# *Calaveras County*

## *Department of Agriculture*

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*Kevin Wright* ♦ Agricultural Commissioner / Sealer of Weights and Measures

Karen Ross, Secretary  
California Department of Food and Agriculture  
and  
The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Calaveras

It is my privilege to present the 2012 Calaveras County Crop report as prepared pursuant to Section 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code.

2012 was a good year for Calaveras County agriculture. The reported value for all agricultural products in 2012 was \$29,655,000, an increase of 24.70% over 2011. The figures represent gross production value; not the net income from farming operations. Cattle and timber, the bedrock of Calaveras Agriculture, were the leading commodities. Gross production values increased in virtually all agricultural products, with notable increases in prices for cattle, walnuts and timber and increased tonnage in walnuts, grapes, and olives. Increased demand, along with increased production for locally grown fruit and vegetables, also contributed to the increased value of Calaveras County's crops.

I would like to thank the members of the Agricultural Department staff, especially Shawn Zmak Kuntz, who compiled these statistics for the crop report and Eric Mayberry, who designed the cover and collected data, for their help in putting this report together.

I would like to extend my gratitude to the producers who provide data and help us compile a meaningful report. Numbers do not adequately demonstrate the dedication and hard work that are required to produce and market a crop in Calaveras County. When I hear stories of a grower sleeping in his orchard to ward off the bears before the pear harvest, a sheep herder's account of a run in with a rattlesnake far away from any assistance, a rancher's worry that springs which normally flow through July are drying up in April and an olive grower's invitation to try his savory cured whole olives, then the rest of the story can be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Wright  
Agricultural Commissioner

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# **2012 ANNUAL CROP REPORT**

## *Board of Supervisors*

<i>Cliff Edson</i>	<i>District 1</i>
<i>Christopher Wright</i>	<i>District 2</i>
<i>Merita Callaway, Chair</i>	<i>District 3</i>
<i>Debbie Ponte</i>	<i>District 4</i>
<i>Darren Spellman</i>	<i>District 5</i>

*Lori Norton, County Administrative Officer*

*Presented by  
Kevin Wright  
Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer*

## **STAFF**

*Eric Mayberry  
Agricultural Biologist  
Inspector III*

*Steve Farris  
Agricultural  
Weights & Measures Technician*

*Shawn Zmak Kuntz  
Account Technician III*

# STATISTICS - CALAVERAS COUNTY

Total Land Area	662,791 Acres
Rangeland	188,300* Acres
Government Land	105,311 Acres
Water	16,300 Acres
Farms in County	631* Farms
All Farm Land	201,026* Acres
Irrigated Pasture	2,000* Acres
Land in Agricultural Preserves	143,000 Acres
Land in Timber Preserves	77,500 Acre

**\*According to USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service**



# LEADING FARM COMMODITIES

Cattle and Calves	\$10,300,000	Nursery Products	\$346,000
Timber	\$6,755,000	Vegetable Crops	\$273,000
Poultry	\$2,965,000	Sheep & Lambs	\$203,000
Grapes (Wine)	\$2,814,000	Olives	\$154,000
Walnuts	\$1,872,000	Grain Hay	\$112,000

# LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY



## PRODUCTION

## VALUE

ITEM	YEAR	NUMBER		PER UNIT	UNIT	TOTAL
		OF HEAD	LIVEWEIGHT			
Cattle & Calves	2012	11,600	89,000	CWT	\$116	\$10,300,000
	2011	11,000	72,380	CWT	\$105	\$7,600,000
Poultry*	2012					\$2,965,000
	2011					\$2,894,000
Sheep & Lambs	2012	1,350	1,350	CWT	\$150	\$203,000
	2011	1,000	1,000	CWT	\$155	\$155,000
Misc.**	2012					\$40,000
	2011					\$40,000
TOTAL:					2012	\$13,508,000
					2011	<u>\$10,689,000</u>

\*Includes chickens, turkeys, games birds,  
squab, rabbits, etc...

\*\*Includes goats, emus, llamas, ostriches, etc.

# LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS

PRODUCTION		VALUE
ITEM	YEAR	TOTAL
Livestock & Poultry Products*	2012	\$30,000
	2011	<u>\$25,000</u>



\*Includes wool, mohair, eggs, etc

# FIELD CROPS

PRODUCTION				VALUE		
CROP	YEAR	PRODUCING		TOTAL UNIT	PER UNIT	TOTAL
		ACREAGE	ACRE			
Grain Hay	2012	300	2.75	825 TON	\$136	\$112,000
	2011	400	2.00	800 TON	\$130	\$104,000
Irrigated	2012	2,000		ACRE	\$130	\$260,000
Pasture	2011	2,000		ACRE	\$130	\$260,000
Rangeland	2012	188,300		ACRE	\$17	\$3,201,000
	2011	188,300		ACRE	\$17	\$3,201,000
Misc.*	2012					\$35,000
Field Crops	2011					\$32,000
				TOTAL: 2012		\$3,608,000
					2011	<u>\$3,597,000</u>

\*Includes legume hay, native hay, etc.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

CROP	PRODUCTION		VALUE
	YEAR		TOTAL
Vegetable Crops*	2012		\$273,000
	2011		<u>\$225,000</u>

\*Includes tomatoes, corn, peppers, melons, etc.

## ORGANIC FARMING STATISTICS

CROP	NUMBER OF FARMS	HARVESTED ACRES
Vegetable & Fruit	6	55 Acres

## FRUIT AND NUT CROPS

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION		VALUE		
		PRODUCING ACREAGE	ACRE	TOTAL UNIT	PER UNIT	TOTAL
Grapes (Wine)	2012	910	2.50	2,275 TON	\$1,237	\$2,814,000
	2011	900	2.40	2,160 TON	\$1,350	\$2,916,000
Olives*	2012	140	2.00	280 TON	\$550	\$154,000
	2011	140	1.50	210 TON	\$550	\$116,000
Walnuts (In shell )	2012	775	.93	720 TON	\$2,600	\$1,872,000
	2011	800	.85	680 TON	\$2,000	\$1,360,000
Misc.**	2012					\$204,000
	2011					\$204,000
				TOTAL:	2012	\$5,044,000
					2011	<u>\$4,596,000</u>

\*Includes fresh & oil

\*\*Includes apples, berries, cherries, peaches, pears, pistachios, various nuts, etc.

## APIARY PRODUCTS

	PRODUCTION	VALUE
<u>ITEM</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Apiary*	2012	\$91,000
	2011	<u>\$81,000</u>



\*Includes honey, wax, pollination, etc.

## NURSERY CROPS

		PRODUCTION		PER	VALUE
<u>CROP</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Christmas Trees	2012	615	EACH	\$42	\$26,000
	2011	600	EACH	\$40	\$24,000
Nursery Products	2012				\$320,000
	2011				\$300,000
				TOTAL: 2012	\$346,000
				2011	<u>\$324,000</u>

## TIMBER

		PRODUCTION		VALUE
<u>CROP</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>		<u>TOTAL</u>
Timber Production	2012	39,458	Million Board Feet	\$6,755,000
	2011	33,661	Million Board Feet	<u>\$4,145,000</u>

## PEST EXCLUSION

<u>PEST</u>	<u>AGENT/MECHANISM</u>	<u>PROGRAM</u>
Exotic Pests (Commercial and household goods movements)	Terminal Shipment 6509 Inspections	18 Rejections

## PEST DETECTION

<u>PEST</u>	<u>PROGRAM</u>
Gypsy Moth	On-going
Mediterranean Fruit Fly	On-going
Japanese Beetle	On-going
Oriental Fruit Fly	On-going
Melon Fruit Fly	On-going
Light Brown Apple Moth	On-going
Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter	On-going

## PEST ERADICATION MANAGEMENT

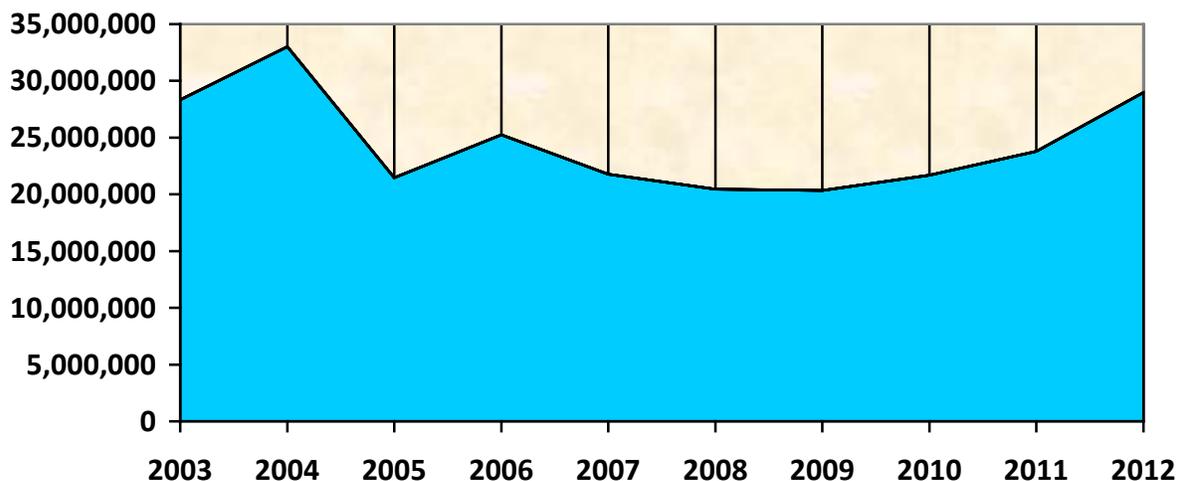
<u>PEST</u>	<u>AGENT/MECHANISM</u>	<u>PROGRAM</u>
Diffuse Knapweed, <i>Centaurea diffusa</i>		On-going
Diffuse-Spotted Knapweed, <i>Centaurea diffusa x maculosa</i>		On-going
Plumeless Thistle, <i>Carduus acanthoides</i>		On-going
Scotch Thistle, <i>Onopordum acanthium</i>		On-going
Spotted Knapweed, <i>Centaurea maculosa</i>		On-going
Gorse, <i>Ulex Europaeus</i>		On-going
Stinkwort, <i>Petrichia Graveolens</i>		On-going
Yellow Star Thistle, <i>Centaurea Solstitialis</i>		On-going

## SUMMARY

ITEM	2012	2011	2010
LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY	13,508,000	10,689,000	11,190,000
LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS	30,000	25,000	22,000
FIELD CROPS	3,608,000	3,597,000	3,594,000
VEGETABLE CROPS	273,000	225,000	200,000
FRUIT AND NUT CROPS	5,044,000	4,596,000	4,349,000
APIARY PRODUCTS	91,000	81,000	91,000
NURSERY PRODUCTS	346,000	324,000	420,000
TIMBER	6,755,000	4,145,000	1,830,000
TOTAL	<u>\$29,655,000</u>	<u>\$23,782,000</u>	<u>\$21,696,000</u>

## COMPARATIVE PRODUCTION VALUES

2012 \$29,655,000	2007 \$21,775,300
2011 \$23,782,000	2006 \$25,251,200
2010 \$21,696,000	2005 \$21,476,200
2009 \$20,332,000	2004 \$33,010,700
2008 \$20,449,500	2003 \$28,323,200



## **MEET THE STAFF**

**Kevin Wright** was appointed Commissioner by the Calaveras County Board of Supervisors on January 7, 2013. He had served as the Chief Deputy Agricultural Commissioner in Calaveras County since November 2006. He enjoys fishing for Kokanee salmon at New Melones Reservoir and then cooking and eating his catch along with a nice bottle of chilled Calaveras County vintage wine.

**Shawn Zmak Kuntz**, Accounting Technician III, has been with the department since November 2005. She has lived in the county since 1976 and has a 10 acre farm raising a variety of animals and crops. She enjoys spending quality time with her family and animals, and partakes in many outdoor activities.

**Eric Mayberry**, our Agricultural Biologist III, has been with the county since November 2005. He resides in West Point, enjoys hiking and the outdoors.

**Steve Farris**, Agricultural Weights and Measures Technician, has been with the department since May 2007. He is a collector of vintage records and treasures and enjoys spending time with his family and listening to music.